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providing a pressurized container containing an amount of anhydrous ammonia wherein the container has inlet and outlet valves;

injecting a quantity of heated nitrogen gas into the container to form a nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture; and

venting the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture to a flare; and

repeating the injection of the container with heated nitrogen gas and venting the mixture to the flare until the concentration of anhydrous ammonia is less than or equal to about 10,000 ppm.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

providing a natural gas inlet for feeding natural gas to a burn ring within the flare;

feeding the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture to the burn ring.

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9. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

inspecting the container for leaks via a leak detection apparatus; and

stopping the cleaning of the container if a leak of the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture is found wherein said anhydrous ammonia is present in the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture emanating from the leak at a concentration of at least 50 ppm.

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11. (Amended) A method of cleaning a pressurized container, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a pressurized container comprising an amount of anhydrous ammonia wherein the container has a plurality of valves;

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95 injecting a quantity of heated nitrogen gas into the container to form a nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture;

venting the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture to a flare; and

repeating injecting the container with the heated nitrogen gas and venting the mixture to the flare until the concentration of the anhydrous ammonia is at most about 50 ppm.

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96 13. (Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

inspecting the container for leaks via a leak detection apparatus; and

stopping the cleaning of the container if a leak of the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture is found wherein said anhydrous ammonia is present in the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture emanating from the leak at a concentration of at least about 50 ppm.

REMARKS

The present Amendment is submitted in response to an Office Action dated August 29, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification for the improper use of trademarks. In addition, claim 2 was objected to because of an informality. Further, claims 1-10 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In addition, claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bombard in view of Rudat.

By the present Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to correct the informalities noted above. Specifically, the term "DRAEGER" has now been capitalized throughout the specification.